Buck Fensterwald Rides Again- the man who can't ever keep his word. HW 8/1/74
Yesterday afternoon and evening several calls from Jim Lesar. First to say that Bud had been in NYC and had met with Guicioni and Seposs(phon) an old friend and now head of Penthouse's book subsidiary. They had a copy of the 1/27 transcript, were interested, and Bud had told them making any use without me would be unjust because of all the effort I'd gone to to get it. Why didn't JL phone and speak to them. He did, they are interested, but in the future because Seposs is busy and can't handle more than one thing at a time! I had asked Jim to ask how they got it. Bud got it and gave it to them! He was in on this only after first giving his word that he would preserve absolute silence. Even Arch has given only one other copy out, they wrote me (PH). Bud knew my concern was nuts' misuse, so he takes it to the nuttiest and breaks confidence to help me. Had he wanted to help, the time was 6 weeks ago, when he read it. I could then have made arrangements. We now have the need of having this ready for FOI debates and possible Nixonian misuse and can't trust even a publishing contract. We could have arranged Penthouse distribution (and may yet) but not subsidiary use, which we also could have. I had planned an approach to Payboy Press to give them something to pose opposite O'Toole's coming Penthouse crap. My schedule and plans call for all but last sig and cover to be at printers end next week, so now is late for any deal except distribution and Seposs is about to leave for Europe. Big blab, big "help" - big problem.

Bud just can't keep his mouth or his word.